

Marginal Column

By ERNST LAQUER

**Adenauer Calls For
East-West Pact Of
Non-Aggression**

WASHINGTON, Saturday. — West German Chancellor, Konrad Adenauer, called for an East-West non-aggression treaty last night as the culmination of a four-point programme to bring unity to Germany and security to the free world.

Dr. Adenauer was speaking on the eve of his return for Europe after his talks with President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles. He cut short his American visit to attend the funeral of the Speaker of the West German Upper House, Dr. Hermann Ehlers, who died yesterday.

According to U.P., Dr. Adenauer was to have a private meeting with Dr. Nahum Goldmann today.

In a speech here, Dr. Adenauer declared that the peoples of the West, as a regional group, should jointly enter into a relationship to be settled by treaty, with the Soviet bloc a relationship which would offer all those participating security against aggression.

At the conclusion of a speech in which he denounced the East German elections of October 17 as an example of "what the Soviets mean when they talk of free and democratic elections," Dr. Adenauer laid down his "freest and proudest" programme for handing the Soviet menace for handling the Soviet menace.

Freedom First

The people of the West must first secure their freedom and their peace by combining for their common defence.

They must create sound and stable economic conditions within the free world and guarantee human freedom and social security to everyone.

They should prepare for the future by giving their forms of association a purely defensive character, endowing them with all the elements requisite for a system of collective security."

A report from Berlin means while says that all East German Ministers have been recalled for talks with the Premier, Mr. Grotewohl.

**Eisenhower Presses
Paris Ratification**

WASHINGTON, Saturday (UPI). — President Eisenhower announced last night that the Paris and Manila treaties on European and Far Eastern security respectively, would be submitted to a special session of the Senate for approval next month.

He also announced that a surprise in no early Senate action on the Paris accord to rearm Western Germany and to accord her sovereignty had been expected, on the assumption that the U.S. would await the prior ratification by the European partners, to avoid a repetition of the European Defence Community debacle.

**Capital Goods to Top
Reparations List**

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — Capital goods will become the major part of German reparations goods as the Reparations Minister says.

Mr. M. Dan, director of the Shilumin Corporation, reported to the Public Advisory Committee on German Reparations here yesterday.

The ratios of Reparations goods used over the past two years of 55 per cent for consumption and 45 per cent for production goods will be retained, he stated.

The ratios are worked out after allowance is made for monies spent on fuel, which will continue to be the largest single item bought.

Production goods ordered will include equipment to enable the country to more than double its electrical power capacity, boosting it to 500,000 kilowatts by the present 230,000 kilowatts, Mr. Dan said. Railway equipment will allow trains to run between Tel Aviv and Haifa in an hour-and-a-half, and will suffice for renovation of other lines and to lay new ones.

Up to now, 100 Israelis have visited Germany in connection with "Shilumin" business, Dr. F. E. Shinhar, head of the Purchasing Mission, reported. He denied that there was favouritism in granting permission to go to Germany, as was claimed in some quarters.

Mr. S. Gorin (Histadrut) pointed out in the debate that no charge of favouritism by the Shilumin Corporation towards either the public or private sectors, which are both represented in the Council, had ever been heard in any of its sessions to date. He rejected claims that such existed. While no preference had been shown to either sector, Mr. S. Macht (Manufacturers' Association) agreed that large orders were given primarily on small orders.

Jerusalem, October 31.
**The Most Widely
Spread Disease in
the World**

is almost certainly rheumatism. The number of people forced to be absent from their jobs due to the effects of this illness is greater than the number of sufferers from T.B.

The one means of protection against rheumatism that has proved itself above all others is legal — the product of Swiss research. Tuberous sclerosis is universally known as the best medicine in the treatment of influenza, cold, grippe, scatica. More than 7,000 doctors over the excellent work of Togal — and be convinced.

**BUNDESSTAT APPROVES
COMPENSATION DRAFT**

BONN, Saturday (DPA). — The Bundesrat (Upper House of the West German Parliament) yesterday approved with certain minor modifications, the Government's draft regulations dealing with compensation to victims of Nazism who were invalidised as a result of "matters, slurs and slogans" that were normally completed by the 13th or 14th would this month in some cases extend a few days beyond that date.

It is learned that this statement was issued as a result of meetings on Friday of Civil Service Committees in several Ministries where previous measures were discussed.



Mr. Orenstein (left) being welcomed at Lydda Airport on Friday. Leading him through the crowd is his brother.

ORENSTEIN SAFELY HOME

Jerusalem Post Staff

HAIFA, Saturday. — Tired and not quite adjusted to the sudden turn of his fate, Shimon Orenstein, who 72 hours ago was still in Czechoslovakia, arrived at Lydda Airport yesterday afternoon and drove directly to his home at Sabina adjacent to Kiryat Bialik.

With him in the car were his wife and two boys who hardly realized what had brought their father back so suddenly three years after they had last seen him. Orenstein himself had not slept since 11 o'clock last Wednesday night when he was suddenly called from his cell to the office of his "Institute of correction," Czech parol, for jail for political reasons, and informed that he was to be released and exiled from Czechoslovakia. Mr. Orenstein said today.

He had to wait at the "Institute" until a seat was booked for him on a plane to take him to the West and to freedom. On Thursday he was taken to Port Said and handed over to the Israeli Legation "against his signature." Accompanied by a Legion member he was flown to Zurich, then to Rome where he remained overnight. From there, unaccompanied, he flew yesterday morning by El Al to Lydda.

Talkative, Vague

While Mr. Orenstein, a man in his 40's, was finally communicating on some aspects of his experience, he appeared to be deliberately vague and guarded on others. He was happy to be home and pleased by the welcome he got on his arrival, but he thought the world should leave him in peace. He seemed unaware of the wave of excitement which his arrest, his testimony in the Slansky case and his trial had aroused.

He said his wife was arrested at the frontier, 24 months ago just as he was about to leave Czechoslovakia, but replied vaguely when asked about the reasons. He was interrogated, kept in jail and isolation. The charges against him were political, and no economic offence was attributed to him, he said.

**Ike 'Phones
For Votes**

WASHINGTON, Saturday.

President Eisenhower today began a system of telephone chain calls designed to win votes for Republican candidates in next Tuesday's Congressional election.

The President is happy over the success of his serial tour of four states yesterday, today telephoned and asked 10 plain, ordinary persons around the country to vote Republican and to "phone the same request to their wives."

The Democratic National Chairman, Mr. Stephen Mitchell, immediately countered by instructing every Democratic candidate to "knock at the doors of ten persons and tell them why we need a Congress that will take positive action to curb unemployment, give fathers a fair return for his toil, give tax cuts to the people instead of party groups, and enable the President to conduct a real bi-partisan foreign policy."

Shoe-Leather Chain

The candidates should each make ten telephone calls "walk the halls of ten others and spread the facts of the campaign through the shoe-leather chain."

Before starting a 1,400-mile whirlwind tour of Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and Delaware yesterday, Mr. Eisenhower said that he was trying to dispel what he termed "this puzzling vote apathy," but he told a Wilmington crowd that instead of apathy, he had encountered "enthusiasm, belief and confidence" that the Republicans would retain control of Congress.

Yesterday, two Democrat leaders tried to dissuade him of something they have so far been reluctant to do because of his personal popularity.

Mr. Mitchell said that Mr. Eisenhower, in his airport speeches, had joined in the Red smear, slurs and slogans that were normally completed by the 13th or 14th would this month in some cases extend a few days beyond that date.

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**Persian Oil Flows
Freely Again; Six
Officers Executed**

TEHERAN, Saturday. — Iran's vast oil supply began an unhampered flow today for the first time in three-and-a-half years, following the Shah's ratification of the agreement with the international oil consortium.

Also this morning, six Army officers were executed after being found guilty of espionage and treason at a secret trial. Yesterday, the Army Appeals Court upheld death sentences passed on 12 officers, the second batch of conspirators convicted following a pair of Tudeh (pro-Communist) Party members in the forces. Ten of the first group of 12 were executed last week-end.

Of the second group, six officers were given leave by the Shah to appeal to the Civil Supreme Court.

Fatemi May Appeal

The Army Appeals Court yesterday upheld the death sentence imposed on Hussein Fatemi, the former Foreign Minister, but the Shah also gave him leave to appeal to the Civil Supreme Court. Fatemi, 27, was found guilty on October 10 of treason and of attempting to overthrow the monarchy and to set up a Communist-style republic.

It was Fatemi who was largely responsible for breaking the agreement with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and the nationalization of the oil industry in April 1951.

Since then, only small quantities of oil have left Abadan, bought mainly by Japan and Italy under strong protest and legal claims by the oil companies.

The meeting was called upon the demand of Israel after the U.N. Truce Supervision chief, Maj.-Gen. Edeson Burns, had reported that the Egyptian MAC had been unable to agree on procedure for examining the Bat Galim case. The Council on October 14 had voted to defer any consideration of the case until the MAC had investigated and made a report.

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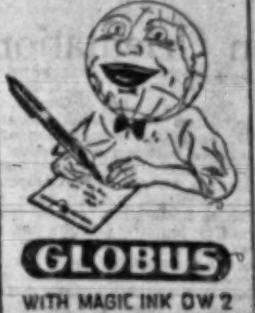
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**Today's Post Bag****THE WEATHER**

	A	B	C	D
Mr. Carter	49	15	22	22
Tiberias	49	15	22	22
Haifa Port	77	18	27	29
Nahariya	46	15	25	29
Tel Aviv Port	59	17	25	26
Lydda Airport	59	14	27	28
Jerusalem	21	14	25	28
Baeritah	21	14	25	28
Elat	43	18	20	22

FORECAST: In North isolated showers of first, clearing later; elsewhere, partly cloudy, fair later.

* * *

TWO INMATES of Ramle Prison escaped on Friday evening but one of them was captured later by the police. His accomplice is still at large. They were serving sentences of three and six years respectively.

* * *

A GROUP of 70 newcomers from Cochinchina, who arrived at El Al via Cyprus on Friday were taken immediately to their new homes in two Jerusalem Cordovero villages, Mezuzat Haon and Tzak.

* * *

A SENTENCE of one year in prison and the suspension of his driving license for two years was imposed on Karol Wajnsztok, 30, of Shekhe Muna, by the Tel Aviv District Court on Friday. His excessive driving resulted in the death of his passenger about a year ago.

* * *

SOME 1,500 PERSONS gathered in Beersheba on Friday night to hear Eyan-Aluf Nehemia Barig, former commander of the Negev Brigade, and Mr. Israel Galil, address a Le'Abut-Jis-Avoda sponsored meeting convened to mark the sixth anniversary of the liberation of Beersheba.

THE VERDICT of a mock trial arranged by the Herut Party as an election stunt on Friday night, was that the economic regime sponsored by all members of the present coalition was responsible for the death of David Ben-Gurion who died on his life, blaming the tax authorities.

* * *

THE REHOVOT Municipal Council decided on Thursday to broaden the governing coalition by adding two Le'Abut-Jis-Avoda Councillors. The coalition had consisted of four Histadrut Councillors, two Yeshivotim and two Religious Zion.

* * *

A FILM of Theodore Herzl and two other Israeli films which will be used by the United Appeal in the U.S. will be shown at Z.O.A. House, Tel Aviv, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday under the auspices of the Jewish Agency, reservations by telephone #6811, until tomorrow.

* * *

Blau To Be Tried By Three Magistrates

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Rabbi Avram Blau, 55, leader of the ultra-Orthodox National Kara, is to stand trial before a court composed of three Magistrates on charges of illegal assembly and interfering with public life in the performance of his duty. Magistrate Meir Even-Tov ordered on Friday in Jerusalem.

Rabbi Blau, his son, Yaakov, 18, and Yehuda Samit, 20, were arrested on Thursday when they demonstrated in front of the Working Mothers Club in Rehov Devora Haniveli and demanded that the boys and girls there should not be permitted to play together.

When asked if he pleaded guilty or not guilty, Rabbi Blau declared that the Magistrate had no right to try him, for he had not been appointed in accordance with the Torah; nor did he have the right to judge under "the laws of the gentiles," for the Magistrate falsely claimed to represent "the people of Israel." Yaakov Blau also said that he did not recognize the authority of the Court, while Yaakov pleaded "not guilty."

Mr. Even-Tov ruled that, since setting up of a court of three Magistrates would take some time, as it was a new provision in Israeli law, he would release the accused pending trial.

The police prosecutor objected, pointing out that this was the third offense of this nature within in three weeks and that a fourth might lead to "bloody clashes."

Mr. Even-Tov released each of the three in IL 50 personal bond.

The Principal of the Tora Etz Yeshiva, Rabbi Eliyahu, was arrested at his home in the Mea Shearim Quarter on Friday on suspicion of having taken part in Thursday's illegal assembly.

SABBATH VISIT PROTESTED.

BAT YAM, Saturday. — Eighty local residents, who originally had come from 48 different countries, visited Mr. David Ben Gurion in his Edde Boker today, while on an organized tour.

About 200 Orthodox persons demonstrated last night in front of the home of the chairman of the Local Council, Mr. D. Ben Ari, protesting against the tour as a public desecration of the Sabbath. Later a delegation, called on Mr. Ben Ari requesting cancellation of the tour and stating their willingness to be a financial loss resulting. The tour was not held under the auspices of the Council; nevertheless, Mr. Ben Ari tried to influence the organizers, but he was not successful, as it was too late to notify the participants.

'Less Politics Needed In Municipalities'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — Less politics and more states in administration in local government are needed in order to make municipal work more efficient. Mayor H. Levana said at the first weekly luncheon this season of the Commercial Industrial Club here yesterday.

District elections would "de-politicize" municipalities, the Mayor believed. In addition to political difficulties, Tel Aviv was hamstrung by lack of help from the State budget and an antiquated Civil Service system, Mr. Levana said. The town had to use its considerable resources to maintain a IL 24m budget towards its IL 34m budget.

The Mayor asserted that he was trying to introduce a system whereby inefficient workers could be dismissed and replaced by adequate administrators. This was now impossible. Good administrators tend to leave the Municipality because of low salaries.

T.A. Council to Decide On Engineers' Dismissals

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — The Tel Aviv Municipal Council is to meet in closed session tomorrow to discuss the case of the three engineers dismissed following charges of irregularities in the Technical Department. The three had appealed to the Council against their dismissal without trial.

It is understood that most members of the coalition are expected to support the dismissal, while the Labour representatives are on the whole opposed.

The Progressive Party has submitted that the case go to court and that the Municipality should act only after the court had ruled on the charges.

Mapam to Demand 15-20% Wage Rise

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — A Mapam-sponsored conference of representatives of shop stewards committees resolved today to work for an increase of 15-20 percent in wages when the collective agreements in industry come up for signature in 1955.

The conference also decided to fight the "efficiency drive" dismissals and sent a message of sympathy to the four workers who had been discharged from the Negev foundry on their ground.

The meeting was opened last night by the General-Secretary of Mapam, Mr. Meir Yaari, who was followed by Mr. Y. Hassan, and Mr. Z. Preminger. Mr. I. Hersch wound up the discussion in which 30 persons took the floor today.

Heavy Short Downpours Drench J'lem, T.A.

Jerusalem's first heavy downpour of the season sent thrusters scurrying for shelter at midday yesterday.

The rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning, lasted about half-an-hour.

A short, heavy rainfall struck Tel Aviv shortly after darkness fell yesterday evening, but the sky cleared soon afterwards. The rain was preceded by a brilliant display of lightning from the clouds moving in over the sea.

3 Mapai Delegates At Socialist Youth Talks

COPENHAGEN, Saturday (INA). — Three Mapai delegates are taking part in the International Socialist Youth Conference which opened here yesterday. They are Mr. Moshe Gilboa, Mr. Nahman Ori and Mr. S. R. Moravitz who leads the delegation. The Israel Labour Party has invited the Asian Socialist delegates at the conference to visit Israel on their way home.

JNF REQUEST REJECTED

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — A request by the Jewish National Fund to cancel a IL 7,500 commission claim by the Feuchtmayer Bank against them was rejected by District Court Judge Y. Lamm here yesterday.

The National Fund's lawyer claimed that the Tel Aviv court had no jurisdiction in this case as the company is registered here with a business address in Jerusalem. In rejecting the argument the Judge pointed out that most of the company's business was actually conducted in Tel Aviv.

TWO OFFICERS HELD FOR ABUSING CONFIDENCE

HAIFA, Saturday. — Two Customs Department officials have been arrested here in connection with the seizure in the Haifa port of an illegal still, the operators of which made and sold spirits without paying estate duties.

They will be brought to Court tomorrow, and will be charged with accepting bribes and with abuse of confidence. They are Barush Goldstein, 30, Ya'akov Timukhi, both of Haifa.

BIG BLAZE IN T.A.

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — Damage estimated at scores of thousands of pounds was caused when a fire broke out yesterday afternoon at the Manhattan tire works in Rehov Eliyahu. Thick smoke drifted over Jaffa and southern Tel Aviv as firemen fought the blaze until late at night.

Large quantities of straw and rags, estimated at IL 17,500, were destroyed by a fire in Givatayim in the northern Negev yesterday afternoon. Firemen from Migdal Ashkelon joined the kibbutz members in fighting the fire.

Four dunams of pine trees were gutted by a fire which started in the Herod Forest on Friday afternoon. The Petach Tikva fire brigade extinguished the blaze.

JORDAN PAPER SUSPENDED

Another Jordan opposition newspaper, the Amman weekly, "A-Raya," has been suspended for six months, the Old City daily, "Palastin," reported.

'Drydock Will Interfere with Haifa Port'; Saphir again Warns Hayama

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — The floating dry-dock, due in Haifa within the next few days, is expected to interfere with work near the breakwater. It will have to be moved out later, as the disorganization caused by it will grow.

Answering questions at a press conference yesterday, Mr. Y. Saphir, Minister of Communications, said that the浮干 dock, which the Foreign Ministry expected to increase considerably, had larger exports of cement and phosphates. It is possible, however, that a permanent accommodation must be found for the dock, which is some 150 metres long and 30 metres wide.

The Government reserves the right to sue the Hayama Company, for whom the dock was bought by the Reparations Commission, for damages caused by breach of the contract signed earlier this year. "We want to be satisfied with the compensation given to us," he said.

Independence Prof. Deva said, was never complete until it was wedded to economic equality. On the other hand, he believed that the Soviet Union had brought independence to the people once overthrown, as it had become clear that social freedom was useless without political freedom. He added that he was much impressed by the progress made in Israel and was sure that the Soviet Union could overcome its present economic difficulties.

On the earlier history of the Seaport, Mr. Saphir explained that the Economic Ministry Committees had never been informed of the intended plan to purchase "an ship and a floating dock" but the actual dock, with details and arrival time, had not been discussed nor had ratification of the purchase been sought. He said he had now heard that the Ministry of Defence had entered the Hayama partnership together with Solel Boneh and Eim.

Recent Innovation

An innovation recently instituted by his Ministry, Mr. Saphir continued, was the publication of intermediate bus stops of the frequency of the service, so that passengers could see the maximum time they would have to wait for the next bus. A strict timetable was impossible on lines with frequent buses, but inside the town and on quick-service inter-urban lines, the practice of "terminal waiting" with passengers waiting for their respective bus stops of the frequency of the service, so that passengers could see the maximum time they would have to wait for the next bus. A strict timetable was impossible on lines with frequent buses, but inside the town and on quick-service inter-urban lines, the practice of "terminal

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ON Friday night a band of thirty armed marauders from across the border attacked a Beduin camp in the Southern Negev. Yesterday an Israeli-motorized patrol was shot at from Egyptian positions across the border.

These incidents add to the heavy toll of Egyptian aggression which has mounted alarmingly in the past two months. There was the blowing up of a bridge on the Eilat-Ein Nefatim road on September 2, an attack on an Israeli Beduin camp near Zubeita two days later, when a man was killed and two wounded and their flock driven off; the murder of an Israeli tractor driver near Ruhama the next day and a further dynamiting of the pipe line near Nir-Am on September 7. Among other raids were the killings of Israeli citizens near Migdal Ashkelon on September 26, the theft of 20 camels of the el Assad Beduin tribe, and all but the latest, on October 25, further damage to the Israeli pipe line near Nir-Am.

These repeated acts, and the latest armed raid on the Beduin camp of Friday night, have been carried out despite strong condemnation by the Israel-Egypt Mixed Armistice Commission of similar outrages. The persistence of Egypt in these acts of aggression and her complete disregard of the exhortations of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization authorities here have created a dangerous situation. Add to this the attempt to reduce the working of the Mixed Armistice Commission to ridicule by the filibuster in connection with the Israel protest over the Bat Galim incident, and one begins to wonder what the next steps must be in order to prevent the situation from drifting into chaos.

In connection with the latter manifestation of Egyptian arrogance the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization took the perfectly correct and justifiable course of stopping the sorry farce before it went too far by referring the matter to the Security Council. It will be recalled that General Burns acted with dispatch over Israel's reprisal raid at Beit Likiya on the night of September 1-2, by reporting to that body on September 7. His report on this incident was not published until some days later so that it may be quite possible that he contemplated similar action in connection with Egypt's latest series of planned and deliberate aggressions. Certainly the position cannot be allowed to deteriorate very much longer and Israel lives and property cannot be expected to be made pawns in the search by Colone Nasser and his junta for diversion in the difficulties in which they find themselves plunged at the present time. (One can only state in parenthesis that if they had sought positive social reforms with one half the zeal they devoted to bellicose utterances and border diversions they might today have found their government in a much more stable position than it is.)

It needs only to be recalled that on October 4, the Israel Government, in a special statement, called attention to the worsening of the position along the borders and issued the following stern reminder: "Israel's population has been sorely tried by these incessant acts of aggression. The anger of the border settlers, and their will to defend themselves demand that an end be put one way or another to the perpetual threat to their lives and property."

The Bat Galim complaint is to be dealt with by the Security Council later this week. It would be well if the latest border aggressions might, by that time, also be before that body at the instance of the Chief of Staff. Certain it is, that Egypt, together with the other Arab States, has long derived comfort in its wrong-headed ways from the ineffectiveness of the West at the Security Council and their uncritical friendship outside it. It is to be hoped that better counsels will prevail to offset the mounting threat to the peace of the area that has been built up by the present ill-advised policies.

New Ambassadors Arriving This Week

The new Ambassadors from Great Britain and the United States of America are expected to arrive in Israel this week and will present their credentials to the President in Jerusalem.

Edward B. Lawson

THE new U.S. Ambassador, Mr. Edward B. Lawson, comes to Israel from Reykjavik, Iceland. While there, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. David Meir, has given him the additional post of chief of the U.S. Foreign Operations Administration mission in Reykjavik. He acquitted himself with distinction in both jobs and is especially remembered for the part he played in bringing to a successful conclusion negotiations for military aid to the Government of Iceland.

The 59-year-old Ambassador, an unassuming and straightforward man, was most cordial since his arrival in Israel. It is true that the new assignment has the greatest potentialities of his career. But the Ambassador sees Israel not as a stepping stone in his career but as a vital world crossroads at a crucial point in history. He views Asia as an element of paramount importance to the United Nations and the free world, as well as to the United States and Israel. To hear him talk of his new assignment is to know that he has dedicated himself to the task of executing his duties creatively and successfully.

Mr. Lawson was born in the town of Newport in the southern State of Rhode Island. He served overseas with the U.S. Army during World War I. He graduated from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. in 1925, then served as Assistant Trade Commissioner (1927-1930) and Trade Commissioner (1930-1933) at Johannesburg. From 1933 to 1937 he held the same post in London. He was appointed Commercial Attaché to Prague, in 1937, and in the



MR. LAWSON

John W. Nicholls

HIS Excellency Mr. John W. Nicholls, C.M.G., O.B.E., who is arriving today to take up his appointment as H.M. Ambassador to Israel, is in his middle forties, and looks forward to his appointment in Israel, which he has not visited before; his previous foreign service has been in Greece, Portugal, Austria and Russia.

Born on October 4, 1909, the new Ambassador was educated at Malvern and at Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he read the Foreign Office in 1930. After first overseas posting was to Athens, where, as a young Third Secretary, he served during the eventful period of the Venizelos revolution, the restoration of the King, and the Metaxas coup.

During the years that followed Mr. Nicholls' return to England and to the Foreign Office he began to specialize in economic matters. At one time he was a relatively new Economic Department of the Foreign Office. He helped to draw up the plans for the establishment of a Ministry of Economic Warfare in the event of war. The day before the Second World War broke out he was posted to Berkeley Square and placed an important role in establishing the Ministry. It was quite exciting to see the prepared plans swing smoothly into operation.

Appointed Commercial Counsellor and Economic Adviser at the British Embassy in Lisbon in 1943, Mr. Nicholls was there during the time of the great wolfish campaign (tungsten ore), when the Nazis were desperately trying to obtain supplies of wolf-ram for their steel production, and the Allied powers were no

MUSICAL DIARY

FROM E.T.A. Hoffman to G.B. Shaw, great names have rendered homage to "Don Giovanni." Scopus Klerkberg commented:

"Truly, it is possible to imagine many classical works in music; but there remains always only one work of which one can say that its idea is absolutely unique, that music does not receive it as an accompaniment but displays its own innermost being while revealing the idea. Therefore, Mozart, with his "Don Giovanni," stands first among the musical geniuses."

Goethe wrote to Schiller: "My dear friend, your names are rightly fulfilled: "Don Giovanni," but the work stands uniquely alone and Mozart's death prevents any new creation." It is an achievement but displays its own innermost being while revealing the idea. Therefore, Mozart, with his "Don Giovanni," stands first among the musical geniuses."

Musologists have often remarked about the unique blend of opera seria and opera buffa in "Don Giovanni." The romantic Eduard Moerika wrote a tale: "Mozart auf der Reise nach Prag." The aged Casanova himself, writing his memoirs in a Bohemian inn in 1788, predicted in the revision of Da Ponte's libretto, as evidenced by a draft in his handwriting:

We treasure priceless recollections of "Don Giovanni" in Munich (Bruno Walter), Vienna (Franz Schalk) and Prague (Georg Szell) and we must confess we had our qualms about a concert performance of opera, especially after hearing Milhaud's "David," at which the lack of an opera stage detracted considerably from the impression.

However, under the baton of Igor Markevitch (who has a special record of Mozart performances at several Salzburg Festivals), the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra performance of "Don Giovanni," with eight young Italian singers at the "Edition" on Thursday evening was nothing short of magic. Rarely have we heard a group of singers blending their voices so well, in the best Italian tradition.

Fausto Pedani's "Don Giovanni" rightly stressed the buffo element, as the composer undoubtedly meant. In his "Champagne aria," full of brio, the orchestra's accompaniment was particularly brilliant. LaDonna Anna and coupled dramatic power with sweetness. In the part of Don Ottavio, Mario Spina had a fascinating lyrical tenor, effortless in the upper regions and thrilling in his vengeance duet with Donna Anna.

Enrico Maria Leonello's "Leopoldo" was more operatic than the rest, without overdoing it, however, not even in "Madame's" aria in which he lists his master's conquests ("But in

Spain, but in Spain, one thousand and three"). Angelo Bracardi's "Zerlina" had irresistible charm, and the two basses were excellent contrast: Valerio Mucci's velvet Masetto and Mario Frosini's brassy Commandante. The vocal highlight, of course, was the sextet.

Mr. Markevitch, who conducted without a score, was the one who had coached the singers, none of whom had ever sung the opera before. As is his wont, he claims no credit for himself, praising their talent and adaptability. The fact is that the performance was indeed real pleasure and around the Tel Aviv Chorus did very well, and the orchestra captured all the radiance and transparency that have made Mozart the most popular of the classics in the concert hall of the world. The conductor's power was immediately evident in the overture, said to have been written the night before the performance, the demonic undercurrent of which did not miss and manifested itself throughout. In this faultless interpretation, the most intricate counterpoint became an easy matter. *Dramma giocoso per sonoro indebolito.*

We have finally heard opera of an international standard. An opera is possible in Israel only with the cooperation of the I.P.O.

FRANCO

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